1. Our company has a proprietary camera hatch modification that we offer our customers as a turnkey commercial product at an installed price. Is it acceptable to offer this installed product as an option to the solicitation although it does not meet the Base Effort noted in the SOW since we would not provide the rights to the proprietary engineering package?

It would be acceptable to offer the proprietary camera hatch modification as a potential solution. Although NASA will not require full rights to the proprietary engineering package, we will require full access to the engineering package for review and engineering substantiation purposes for NASA airworthiness approval (NASA research aircraft do not operate under FAA Airworthiness approval). This access could be provided to NASA through a "Government Use Only" clause whereby we would only use the proprietary engineering package for this aircraft application and will not share the proprietary engineering package with others without express written consent of the owner of the proprietary engineering package. So in essence, limited rights to the proprietary engineering package would need to be provided to NASA.

2. Is there an anticipated time line for the program, i.e. when is the anticipated return to service of a modified aircraft required?

NASA is not stipulating a time line for the installation. An installation schedule should be provided as part of the proposal and will be evaluated as part of the proposal. The expectation is that the aircraft will be available for modification and should be inducted for modification as soon as possible after contract award (ideally within 30 days after contract award).